



DUGGAN · PINA · ARCINIEGA





Nightmare is immensely powerful.
He's conquered a splinter realm and
once succeeded in trapping Eternity.
Though his power is above man, he is
drawn to mankind because of what
we have and he lacks...souls.

-- DR. VOODOO

Demons are just like people. You just
hafta figure out where to kick 'em.

-- MAGIK



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[x-men_alpha.]

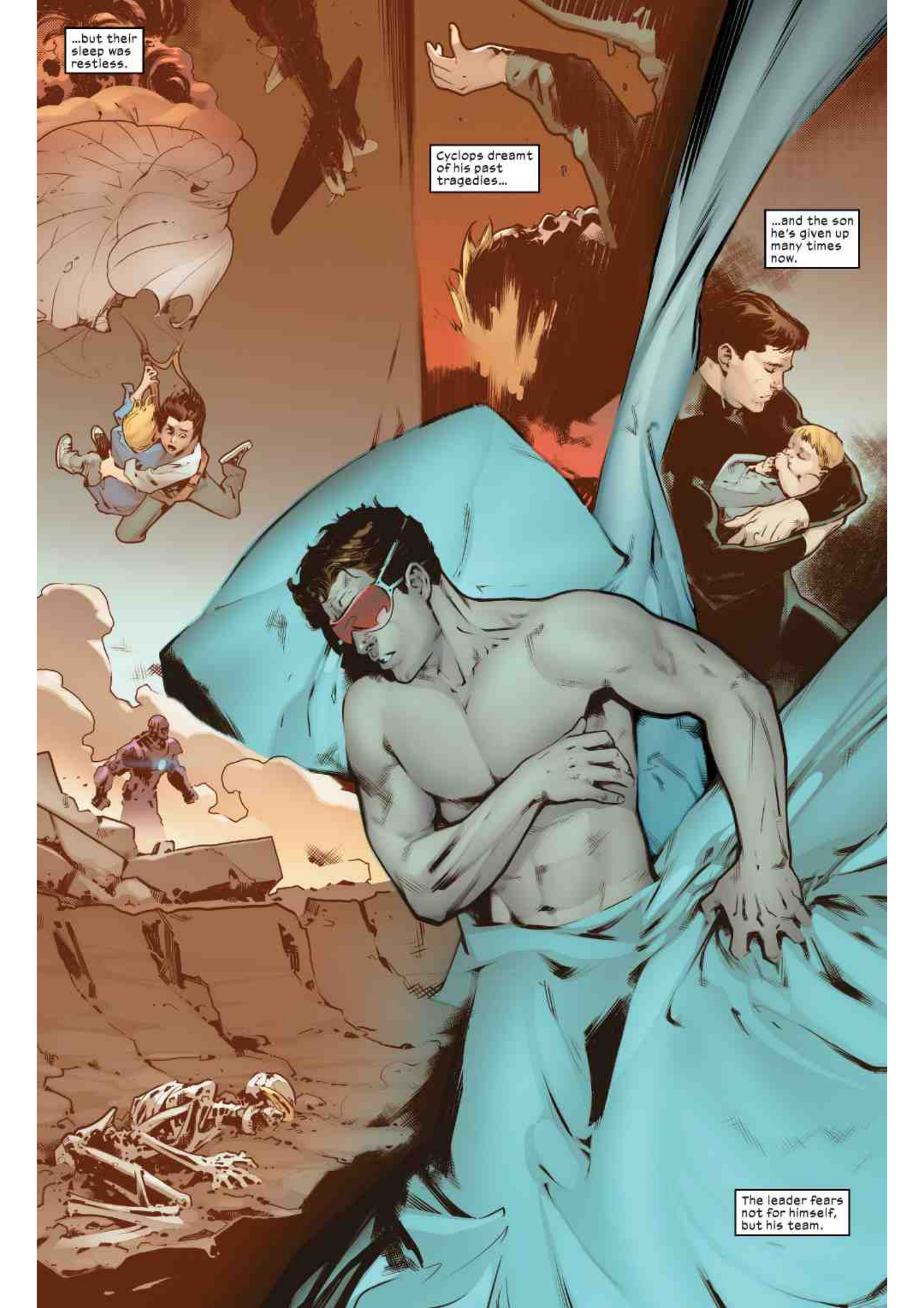
The night before
Halloween is
Devil's Night.

Most of the trees in New York
had already shed their leaves,
but not the Treehouse in
Seneca Gardens.

This year, it
was a quiet and
chilly autumn at
the home of
the X-Men.

Sunfire observed the world as it turned. The heroes
of Krakoa would make sure that dawn would come.

Below the situation
room, the X-Men
lay nestled in their
biomes...



...but their
sleep was
restless.

Cyclops dreamt
of his past
tragedies...

...and the son
he's given up
many times
now.

The leader fears
not for himself,
but his team.

Jean Grey was also reliving a few nightmares.

No.
Please.

Sins of the past
living new lives
again in dreams.

The X-Men
pinball between
death and destruction
then die and live again,
and I've never enjoyed
nightmares more than
the ones in their
little heads.

What a
delight--for

NIGHTMARE!



X-MEN [X_04]

TROUBLED DREAMS

The newly elected X-Men recently faced off against the High Evolutionary and his Evolutionary Guard, who were attempting to deliver unto Earth a deadly virus that would render humans extinct within a generation. The X-Men were able to hold off the Evolutionary Guard long enough for Synch to strike a bargain: one drop of his blood in exchange for the High Evolutionary and his team's leaving Earth in peace.

However, the High Evolutionary isn't the only one with designs on Earth's more vulnerable populations...



Cyclops



Marvel Girl



Sunfire



Wolverine

[ISSUE FOUR]..... FEARLESS, CHAPTER FOUR:
..... "NIGHTMARE ON 86TH STREET"

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Usually, when I ride across this plane, the Sorcerer Supreme rides out to meet me--

--but unfortunately, he's dead as a doornail.

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!



AAEE!!!



Mmm. Guilt over a deceased spouse.
Delicious.



Well, well. This is new since I last danced through New York.



A large, dramatic illustration of Cyclops lying in a wooden coffin. He is wearing his signature red and black striped X-Men uniform. The coffin is positioned diagonally across the frame. The background is a chaotic scene of intense orange and yellow flames, with dark, jagged shapes resembling twisted metal or debris. The overall tone is somber and apocalyptic.

They'll learn
when you build to
great heights that
you have more to
lose when the
flames rise.

A leader
of heroes afraid
that as the X-Men
go, so goes
mutantdom...

A smaller, more intimate illustration showing Cyclops and Jean Grey lying in bed together. Cyclops is on the left, wearing his red visor and a white shirt. Jean is on the right, with her red hair and one hand behind her head. They are both looking towards the right side of the frame. The background is dark and indistinct, focusing attention on the characters.

...and he
must be fearsome
because most of the
others fear
failing him.





A little lost girl, a child soldier and then host to the Phoenix.



A little genocide does keep one up at night.

But there's another fear I smell...



...this one fears the unknown.





At night,
she closes her
eyes and claws
away at the blank
spot in her
mind.

It would be
so easy for her
to fix. The telepath
could just give her
what she seeks
from the mind
of Synch.

She's
afraid of
what was left
behind, locked
away in a
vault.



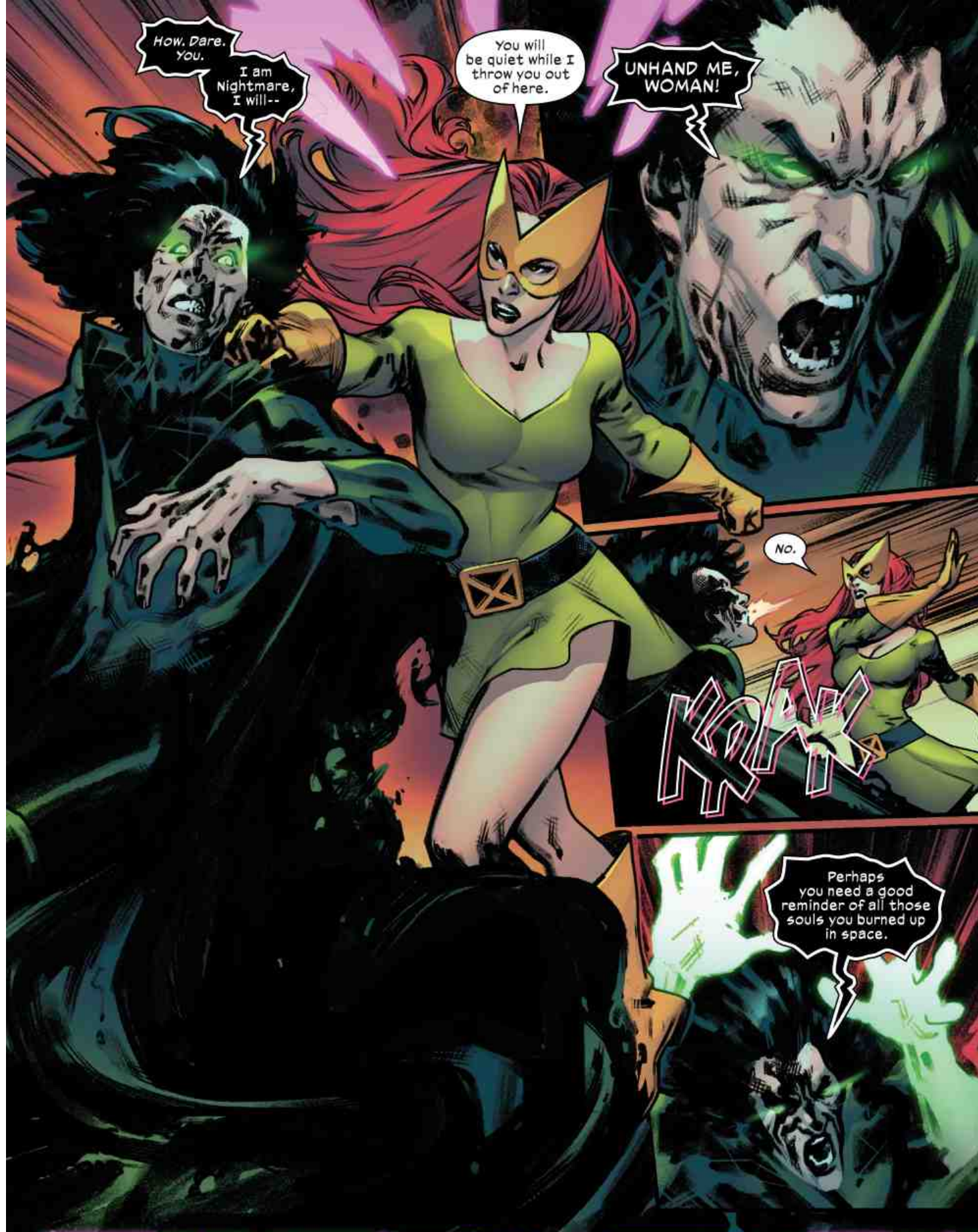
Yet she
does not dare
ask. She doesn't
want to love
him.



...and
missing
her past. She
truly is
Wolverine.

And so
she's paralyzed,
at war with
herself...

How delicio--
AAAH!



"...the one I spoke at the Hellfire Gala when I joined mutant minds together and advocated for myself."

I was once a vessel for death. I know I can never save the number of souls that the Phoenix burned--I can't completely balance that scale--but...I can strive to do it...and even though I will fail, I will leave this world and this universe a better place.

I am an Omega-level telepath and telekinetic, but my greatest weapons will be love and kindness.

Make me an X-Man.

You may be a demon, but you're like so many other weak men. Projecting your own--

You sanctimonious wretch! I AM--

BADOOOM!

AARGH!

I AM
ABOVE YOU,
WITCH!

MUTANT,
HUMAN--
YOU ARE ALL
INSECTS!

I AM
NIGHTMARE, AND
I SHALL MURDER
SLEEP FOREVER
IF I CHOOSE!



AAAAEE!!!

OH
NO!

GOD!

Do you
hear me down
there, Marvel
Girl?

You've
made an enemy
this night!

I hear
you...
...even all
the way up
here.



You risked much by entering my mind, and I'm still clinging to my kindness for your benefit, but you must know...

...how small you are, demon.



I am *not* weaker than you.

And shame on you for taking advantage of Dr. Strange's death to come creeping around, pretending you own the place.

I need you to understand. I have your scent now. If I find you preying on us again when we should be dreaming...I will end you.



Now get
the hell out
of here.



Aaaah!

Yeeaaow!



This was a
tough night
for many
New Yorkers.

They'll wake
up tired and
anxious over
the nightmares
that played out
in their heads.

They won't ever
know they had an
angel watching
out for them.

CITY
SPEED
LIMIT
25
PHOTO
ENFORCED



Sweet dreams,
everybody.



Close
your
eyes...



...and let
the negativity
just fall away
like rain.



I see
I'm not the
only one who was
having trouble
sleeping.

Scott...



...sleep
is for the
weak.



Devils and angels were not the only ones about on this cold night. A storyteller was on the prowl just a stone's throw from Sleepy Hollow, New York.



All my years here, I never had a grave robbed...



...till this one.

Should, uh... you... maybe, fill this in?

I get paid per funeral. Not to fix one that's been undone.

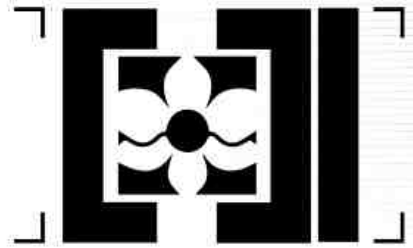
Fair enough.



Thanks for seeing me so late.

I'm glad to know somebody else keeps my hours.

I appreciate your time.



FROM DR. STASIS, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

FAO: All petals

Subject: Project Polyphemus

The second rehearsal went better than the first. The timing was better. If we're not perfect I might consider scrubbing the mission. The most important thing is

and once the authorities take over then

Then I'll scrub up and do what I do. If the rest of the X-Men are a problem, then Project Polyphème should buy us the time we need to safely extract. My stretch goal during these hours is to visit the Treehouse for an inspection if possible. Obviously, only if

Regards,
S

P.S. I've received reports that some of us are not honoring the requests from fellow Orchis personnel holding doctorates. I know many of us are multi-disciplined multi-hyphenates with multiple doctorates. Please, as a common courtesy if your colleague has requested to be called doctor, then do them the courtesy. You have all earned your way here, into this sacred position of defense, and it's not like any of us took online courses at Empire State.

P.P.S. To those of you with doctorates from Empire State University, please understand this is just a little much-needed levity around here.



At its current distance, light from Arakko takes nearly ten minutes to reach Earth. Most men couldn't find it in the night sky...



...and some of the folks that can't find the red planet in the sky don't even believe it was colonized by mutants.

But for one man...taking that planet remains his life's goal.



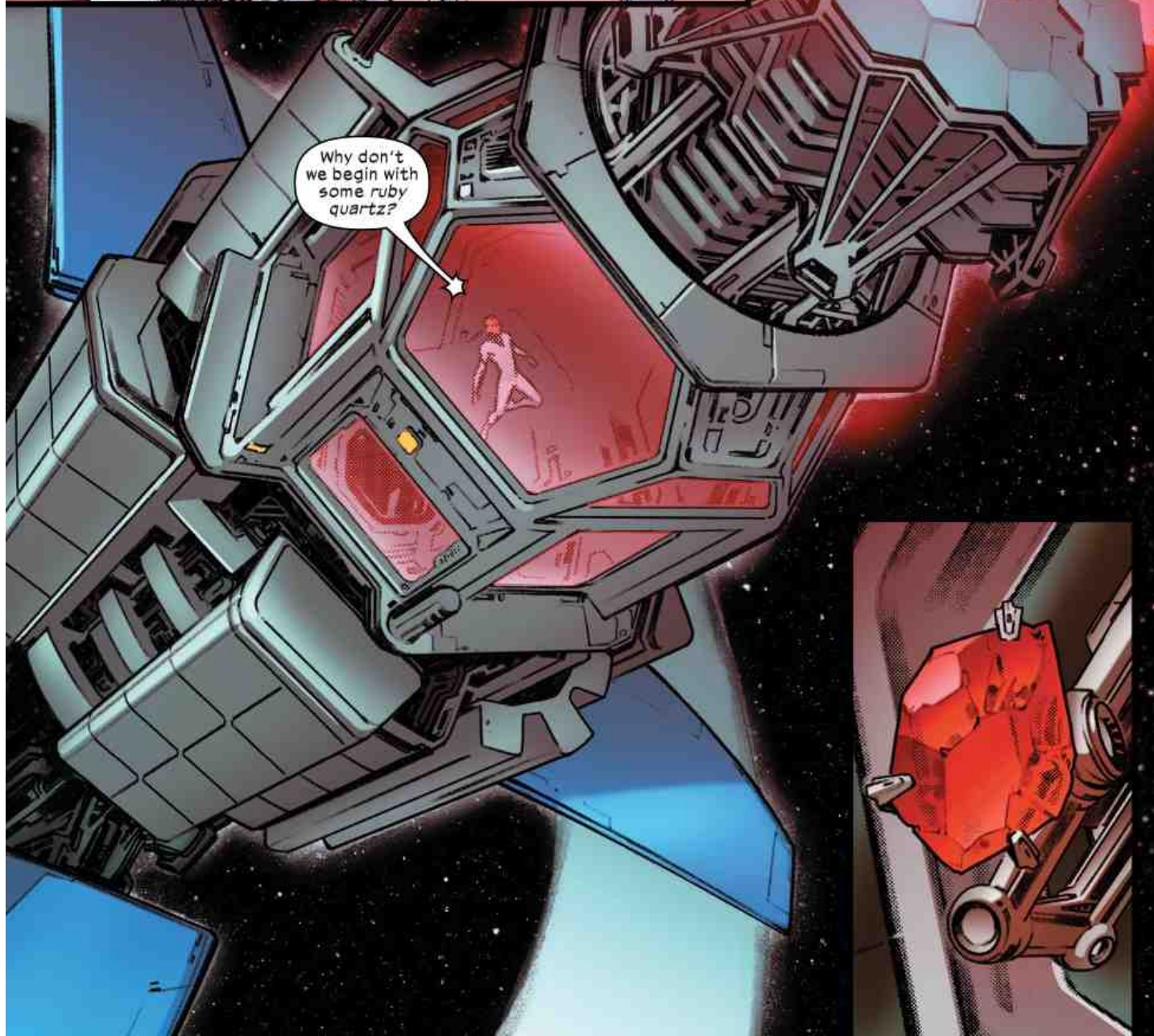
Mankind's previous record traveling to the planet (when it was called Mars) was 39 days...



...but Feilong would cut that time in half.

It's time.

Understood. I'm readying the observatory. Did you have a lens in mind?



Cosmic
ray harnessing
and focus test
one.

Lens is
ruby quartz.
Set exposure
for ten
minutes.

The mutants
may have changed the
equation, but I vowed my
body would be prepared
for Mars...and so
shall it be.





ပုဒ်မူဝါဒ်
မူဝါဒ်မူဝါဒ်

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[kra_[0.0] . . . ]
[koa_[0.0] . . . ]

[00_x-men_.04]
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	EXCALIBUR #24
	HELLIONS #16
	NEW MUTANTS #22
	X-FORCE #24
>>>>>>	X-MEN #4
	S.W.O.R.D. #9
	WOLVERINE #17
	X-MEN: THE TRIAL OF MAGNETO #3
	INFERNO #2
	MARAUDERS #25

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